Title: Need to review the allotment of residential accommodation to Union Territory Cadre Officers posted outside Delhi - Laid.

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA (CONTAI) : There is a peculiar system under which All India Service Officers serving in the North Eastern States in Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Himachal Pradesh, Lakshadweep and some other areas are allowed to retain Government accommodation in Delhi. Presumably, the idea is to make it possible for them to go to these outlying areas but in actual practice this does not serve interest of the States. The common experience is that their families invariably stay in Delhi whereas they virtually lead a camp life in the States/UTs of their posting like Kohima, or Gauhati or Shillong or Agartala or Izwal or Shimla or Port Blair. Not only many of them invariably arrange to fix up meetings in Delhi on Mondays, or Tuesdays or Fridays but also create excuses for longer stay in Delhi. In other words, instead of going to Delhi for attending meetings etc. on the short tours they have, for all practical purposes, created a situation where go on tour to where they are posted and come back to Delhi as soon as possible. Time has come when this practice should be stopped. Once an officer is posted in any of the states/UTs they should be allowed to stay there for a reasonable length of time say 3 to 5 years along with their families and concentrate on their work in the States/UTs. When they are posted back to Delhi, thereafter they can be given a preference in allotment of residential accommodation instead of following the present system whereby they keep residential accommodation in Delhi throughout their service career.